

CLAIMS

What is claimed is:

1 1. A method for collecting information when conducting research,
2 comprising the steps of:
3 electronically capturing content;
4 electronically capturing source information pertinent to the source of the
5 captured content;
6 associating the content and the source information; and
7 transmitting the content and source information to a device for manipulation.

1 2. The method of claim 1, wherein the step of electronically capturing the
2 content and source information comprises capturing the content and source
3 information with a common scan head of a scanning device.

1 3. The method of claim 1, wherein the step of electronically capturing the
2 content and source information comprises capturing the content and source
3 information with separate text and data code scan heads, respectively, of a scanning
4 device.

1 4. The method of claim 1, wherein the step of electronically capturing
2 source information comprises scanning a bar code of the source.

1 5. The method of claim 1, wherein the source information comprises
2 bibliographic information pertinent to the source.

1 6. The method of claim 1, wherein the source information comprises
2 information that can be used to retrieve bibliographic information pertinent to the
3 source.

1 7. The method of claim 1, further comprising the step of capturing
2 content location information that identifies where the content was found in the source.

1 8. The method of claim 7, wherein the content location information
2 comprises one or more page numbers.

1 9. The method of claim 1, further comprising the step of performing
2 optical character recognition on the content.

1 10. A device for recording information when conducting research,
2 comprising:
3 means for electronically capturing content;
4 means for electronically capturing source information pertinent to the source
5 of the captured content;
6 means for associating the content and the source information; and
7 means for transmitting the content and source information to a device for
8 manipulation.

1 11. A method for using captured information, comprising the steps of:
2 receiving content and associated source information pertinent to the source of
3 the content in electronic form;
4 reconfiguring the content and associated source information for use in a user
5 application; and
6 automatically creating at least one source acknowledgement in the user
7 application.

1 12. The method of claim 11, wherein the step of receiving the content and
2 associated source information comprises receiving the content and associated source
3 information with a handheld scanning device.

1 13. The method of claim 11, wherein the at least one source
2 acknowledgement includes a bibliography.

1 14. The method of claim 11, wherein the at least one source
2 acknowledgement includes a footnote.

1 15. The method of claim 11, wherein the at least one source
2 acknowledgement includes an endnote.

1 16. The method of claim 11, further comprising the step of receiving
2 content location information pertinent to the location of the content within the source.

1 17. The method of claim 11, further comprising the step of retrieving
2 bibliographic information pertinent to the source using the source information.

1 18. The method of claim 11, further comprising conducting optical
2 character recognition on the content.

1 19. A system for using captured information, comprising:
2 means for receiving content and associated source information pertinent to the
3 source of the content in electronic form;
4 means for reconfiguring the content and associated source information for use
5 in a user application; and
6 means for automatically creating at least one source acknowledgement in the
7 user application.

1 20. A handheld scanning device, comprising:
2 a housing configured as a pen;
3 a scan head that is adapted to capture information from a source; and
4 memory including an information association module that is configured to
5 associate captured content with captured source information.

1 21. The device of claim 20, wherein the device comprises two separate
2 scan heads, one provided at each end of the device, one of the scan heads being
3 adapted to capture text and the other scan head being adapted to capture data code
4 information.

1 22. The device of claim 20, further comprising a transceiver that is adapted
2 to transmit captured information to another device for manipulation.

1 23. The device of claim 20, further comprising an optical character
2 recognition module stored in memory.

1 24. The device of claim 20, wherein the scan head comprises a charge-
2 coupled device (CCD).